

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail management system for handling electronic mail in a shared multiple user environment, in which the users' incoming electronic mail are sent and received from external correspondents, said system includes a common mail server with a central storage wherein electronic mail items of the users are stored and may be retrieved, said system comprising:

detecting means for monitoring the flow of in- and outbound electronic mails on the mail server for a specified set of users, and intercepting the in- and outbound e-mails;

journalising means for creating a notification record of a set of e-mail information data for each of the intercepted electronic mails;

an electronic mail manager database (EMM DB) for storing said notification records and the associated electronic mails in a relation database so that all the notification records and all the associated electronic mails are accessible for all the users in the multiple users environment by a search query; and

means for establishing a journal of electronic mails from the notification records in the electronic mail management database by defining a search request query and submitting said search request to a search engine for selecting a user-defined series of information data from the notification records in the electronic mail management database.

2. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the detection means includes means for formatting each intercepted electronic mail.

3. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 2, wherein the detection means further include means for copying the formatted electronic mail to the electronic mail manager database (EMM DB).

4. (Previously Presented) The system according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein electronic mail management relation database is hosted on a SQL server.

5. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the means for establishing a journal involves a search according to at least one selection criterion in the notification record for establishing a journal of e-mails among the entries in the electronic mail management database.

6. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 5, wherein the data in the notification record includes a notification message for each e-mail, said notification message containing e-mail header information including at least one of the following data: time of receipt (date); information concerning the sender ("from"); information concerning the recipient or recipients ("to"); information regarding copy recipients ("cc") and/or blind copy recipients ("bcc"); message identification; reference data, such as "in reply to"; subject; comments, and keywords.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said electronic mail management system (EMM) is adapted to cooperate with any SMTP protocol based e-mail systems.

8. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the specified set of users being subjected to the detection means is all users in the multiple user environment is at least two users.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the multiple-user environment is a multi-site customer environment, each site having a local client server.

10. (Previously Presented) The system according to any of claim 1, wherein the multiple-user environment is a single-site customer environment, having a single client server.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the means for establishing a journal include an e-mail management dialog means for each user for indicating arrival and departure of e-mails.

12. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein said dialog means provide for seeking consent for journalising for each arriving and departing e-mail.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein said dialog means provide for automatic journalising for each arriving and departing e-mail.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the journalising means includes:

a notification scheduler, and
the electronic mail manager database.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 14, wherein the notification scheduler includes means for updating the journalising means, said updating means include a predefined journalisable acceptance criterion.

16. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein said journalisable acceptance criterion being either if the specific e-mail is sent to more users, all users must accept the specific e-mail to be journalised, or if only one of the users accepts the specific e-mail for journalising, the journalising is performed.

17. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the means for establishing a journal of e-mails is adapted for providing a multiple of journals.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17, where a journal is established by comparing two or more of said multiple of journals by Boolean operators.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of journalising electronic mail in a shared multiple user environment, in which the users' incoming electronic mail are sent and received from external correspondents, said system includes a common mail server with a central storage wherein electronic mail items of the users are stored and may be retrieved, said method comprising:

monitoring the flow of in- and outbound electronic mails on the mail server to and from the server users, and intercepting at least a selection of the in- and outbound e-mails,

creating a notification record of a set of e-mail information data for each intercepted electronic mail, and storing said notification records and the associated electronic mails in an electronic mail manager relation database (EMM DB) so that all the notification records and all the associated electronic mails are accessible for all the users in the multiple users environment by a search query;

establishing a user-specific journal of e-mails from the notification records in the electronic mail management database (EMM DB) by defining a search request query and submitting said search request to a search engine for selecting a user-defined series of information data from the notification records in the electronic mail management database.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, including formatting each intercepted electronic mail.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, whereby said formatted electronic mail is copied to the e-mail manager database (EMM DB).

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the step of establishing of a journal includes an e-mail management dialog means for each user for indicating arrival and departure of e-mails.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said dialog means provide for seeking consent for journalising for each arriving and departing e-mail.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein said dialog means provide for automatic journalising for each arriving and departing e-mail.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the e-mail journalising step include updating the journalising means, said updating means include a predefined journalisable acceptance criterion.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein said journalisable acceptance criterion is either if the specific e-mail is sent to more users, that all users must accept the specific e-mail to be journalised, or if only one of the users accepts the specific e-mail for journalising, the journalising is performed.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, whereby the step of establishing of a journal of e-mails is adapted for providing a multiple of journals.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, where a combined journal is established by comparing two or more of said multiple of journals by Boolean operators.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer usable medium having computer-readable program code means providing an e-mail management system for journalising electronic mail in a shared multiple user environment, in which the users' incoming electronic mail are sent and received from external correspondents, said system includes a common mail server with a central storage wherein electronic mail items of the users are stored and may be retrieved, said computer-readable program code comprising:

computer program code means for providing detecting means for monitoring the flow of in- and outbound electronic mails on the mail server to and from the server users, and intercepting at least a selection of the in- and outbound e-mails;

computer program code means for providing journalising means for creating a notification record of a set of e-mail information data for each intercepted electronic mail, and storing said notification records and the associated electronic mails in an electronic mail manager relation database (EMM DB) for storing at least said notification record and each electronic mail in a manner accessible for the users in the multiple users environment, so that all the notification records and all the associated electronic mails are accessible for all the users in the multiple users environment by a search query;

computer program code means for providing means for establishing a user-specific journal of e-mails from the notification records in the electronic mail management database (EMM DB) by defining a search request query and submitting said search request to a search engine for selecting a user-defined series of information data from the notification records in the electronic mail management database.